

Event Vetting

Government employees, particularly high-level officials like United States Attorneys, are subject to ethical restrictions governing the types of events they may attend. Some restrictions relate to benefits, including luncheons, dinners, awards, and tokens of appreciation they may accept. Other restrictions relate, among other things, to participation in events that are sponsored by persons who do business with or lobby the Government; that have a fundraising component; where it may appear that official attendance is being used to promote the event or the sponsor; or where elected officials may be in attendance. To assist us in vetting compliance with government ethical restrictions, we would appreciate it if you could provide the following information. If you do not have specific information for each response, please provide such general or descriptive information as you currently have. Please do not hesitate to call the Office's Government Ethics Advisor, (b)(6), (b)(7)c, at (b)(6), (b)(7)c or e-mail him at (b)(6), (b)(7)c to discuss this.

1. Name, date and time, and location of event.
**New York State Bar Association Criminal Justice Section Awards Luncheon
Held at the NYSBA Annual Meeting
New York Hilton Midtown, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY
Wednesday, January 25, 2017
12:15 pm – 2 pm**
2. Format of event (*e.g.*, cocktails; presentations; speeches; and/or meal).
**Cocktails, meal, keynote speaker ("Attica Uprising" author Heather Ann Thompson),
award presentations and acceptance speeches.**
3. Estimated cost per attendee of event.
\$110.00
4. Are any attendees being charged to attend the event? **Yes**
 - a. If so, who (in general) is being offered free attendance, and who is expected to pay?
Free attendance is offered to award recipients, the Section Chair, select law school student volunteers, and non-government attorney award recipients are allowed to bring one complimentary guest.
5. Name of entity extending the invitation and link to web site (if any).
New York State Bar Association www.nysba.org
 - a. Is the entity extending the invitation registered with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 1603(a) of Title 2 of the United States Code?
No.

6. Sponsor of event if different from above.

The Criminal Justice Section of the New York State Bar Association.

Criminal Justice Section www.nysba.org/criminaljustice

- a. Is the sponsor of the event registered with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 1603(a) of Title 2 of the United States Code?

No.

7. Names of additional entities that will be recognized for sponsorship or support of the event.

None

8. How many persons are expected to attend?

Awards luncheon: approx. 100

Weeklong NYSBA Annual Meeting overall: 5,000

9. Demographics of expected attendees (*e.g.*, lawyers; law enforcement; business leaders; students; etc.)

Lawyers, a small number of law enforcement and award recipient guests

10. Are any elected officials expected to attend and, if so, what is their expected role?

No.

11. Will there be any political activity at the event (*i.e.*, any activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for a partisan political office or partisan political group, for example, any speeches urging people to vote for or against a particular candidate or political party)?

No.

12. Is there a fundraising component to the event? (*e.g.*, program advertisements; dinner ticket price; silent auction)? If so, please describe.¹

No.

¹ For events that involve any fundraising leading up to or during the event: The United States Attorney may not participate in any active fundraising activity with respect to the event. Nor may the U.S. Attorney allow his name, position, or title to be used for any fundraising activity for your organization. If applicable, you may list his name as an awardee and/or speaker on the program and on invitations issued not more than 30 days prior to the event, along with other information about the program. He may not be listed on any "save the date" notices. Failure to comply with these limitations may preclude the U.S. Attorney from appearing at the event. If the U.S. Attorney is giving an official speech, he may be seated and have photos taken as

13. Expected role of U.S. Attorney (*e.g.*, simple attendance; remarks; speech)
Attendance to accept the award, any acceptance remarks 5-10 minutes.

14. If the U.S. Attorney is being honored:

- a. What are the criteria your organization applies to determine who should be honored for this specific award?

The awards seek “To recognize a prosecutor who has made a special contribution to not only the prosecution community, but to the bar at large, and whose professional conduct evidences a true understanding of a public prosecutor’s duty to advance the fair and ethical administration of criminal justice.”

Previous Award recipients:

2016 Kathleen B. Hogan, Esq.
2015 Gerald F. Mollen, Esq.
2014 Frank A. Sedita, III
2013 Kristine Hamann, Esq.
2012 Daniel T. McCarthy
2011 Sean E. Smith, Esq.
2010 Stephen F. Lungen, Esq.
2009 Robert L. Dreher, Esq.
2008 Patrick J. McCormack, Jr.
2007 Frank J. Clark, Esq.
2006 George M. Dentes, Esq.
2005 William J. Fitzpatrick, Esq.
2004 Howard R. Relin, Esq.
2003 Robert M. Carney, Esq.
2002 Mary Jo White, Esq.
2001 Sean M. Byrne, Esq.
2000 Hon. Richard A. Brown
1999 Anthony J. Girese, Esq.
1998 Robert M. Morgenthau, Esq.
1997 Hon. Kevin M. Dillon
1996 Hon. Dennis C. Vacco
1995 William L. Murphy, Esq.
1994 John M. Ryan, Esq.
1993 Carl A. Vergari
1992 Daniel S. Dwyer, Esq.

appropriate for a speaker at the event, but you may not use his photo in connection with any other fundraising efforts.

1991 Malcolm C. Hughes, Esq.
1990 Richard C. Laskey, Esq.
1989 Andrew J. Maloney, Esq.
1988 Hon. Charles J. Hynes, Esq.
1987 Edward J. Kuriansky
1986 Hon. Raymond J. Dearie
1985 Kenneth Gribetz, Esq.

- b. What is the internal process by which your organization selects potential honorees?

Solicit nominations from the criminal justice community. An awards Committee then selects the recipients from the pool of nominees.

- c. For what specific public service or achievement do you wish to honor the U.S. Attorney?

The award is a career recognition of all his work as United States Attorney. It is not based on any specific matter.

- d. Did any of the accomplishments of the U.S. Attorney which you wish to honor directly affect the organization or its members? (Describe.)

The Criminal Justice Section of the NYSBA is made up of defense attorneys, prosecutors and judges. It is somewhat unique in that it represents all three components of the criminal justice system. The outstanding work of US Attorney Bharara impacts on all of us involved in criminal justice in New York.

- e. Do any of the board members or host committee or senior staff have any matters pending before or involving the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York?

The Executive Committee of the Criminal Justice Section has approximately 70 members, and it is possible that some have matters before the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District.

- f. Please provide a description and the value of any award item (if the award item is a plaque, certificate or trophy of little intrinsic value, you may so indicate).

Small crystal award, \$85.

- g. Who else is expected to be honored at the event?

2017 Criminal Justice Section Awards at Annual Meeting

1. David S. Michaels Memorial Award

The late Kenneth P. Thompson, Brooklyn District Attorney (Annual Meeting)

2. Outstanding Appellate Practitioner

Malvina Nathanson, Esq. (Annual Meeting)

3. Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Public Information

Heather Ann Thompson, author (Annual Meeting)

Professor of History

The University of Michigan

4. The Michele S. Maxian Award for Outstanding Public Defense Practitioner

Rick Jones, Neighborhood Defender Services of Harlem (Annual Meeting)

5. Vincent E. Doyle, Jr. for Outstanding Judicial Contribution in the Criminal Justice System

Hon. John M. Leventhal, (Annual Meeting)

Associate Justice, Appellate Division Second Judicial Department

Brooklyn, NY

6. Outstanding Prosecutor

Preet Bharara, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York (Annual Meeting)

15. If the U.S. Attorney is making a presentation, who else is expected to be making a presentation/be on a panel? n/a

a. Will the U.S. Attorney be presented with a token or memento in appreciation for his presentation?

i. ☐ Nothing

ii. ☒ **Plaque or other memento of little intrinsic value**

iii. ☐ Other. Please describe, including its value.

16. Describe any special seating arrangements for U.S. Attorney, *e.g.*, dais, general seating (depending on the nature of the event, the U.S. Attorney may or may not be able to accept "dais" seating.)

A reserved table in the ballroom, no seating on the dais.

17. Promotion of the event: please provide a copy of or link to the invitation/promotional material for the event (or if not available, for the prior year's event).

Not yet available.

Will be at: <http://www.nysba.org/am2017Criminallunch/>